

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A process for enhancing commercial poultry breeder operations, comprising:

supplying a space having an area at which poultry breeders are fed;

providing a breeder poultry feed diet composition which comprises a nutritive balanced feed composition and a citrus feed supplement, said citrus feed supplement being a citrus byproduct generated by expressing citrus juice from citrus fruit, the citrus byproduct comprising citrus peel or pulp, said citrus feed supplement being at a concentration of not more than about [[2]] 1.6 weight percent, based on the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition; and

placing said breeder poultry feed diet composition within the area at which poultry breeders are fed, thereby having the poultry feed on the breeder poultry feed diet, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition for the poultry breeders to achieve an average adjusted feed conversion rate that is lower than an adjusted feed conversion rate for similar poultry breeders feeding on the nutritive balanced feed composition without the citrus feed supplement.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of at least about 0.2 weight percent and up to about 1 weight percent, based upon the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition.

23. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of at least about 4 pounds and up to about 16 pounds per ton of feed diet composition.

24. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus byproduct has a moisture content of between about 5 and about 12 percent by weight, based upon the total weight of the citrus byproduct.

25. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises particles of dried citrus byproduct flake.

26. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises particles of pelletized dried citrus byproduct.

27. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus byproduct comprises citrus waste selected from the group consisting of citrus peel, citrus pulp, citrus flavedo, citrus albedo, citrus rag, and combinations thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus byproduct of the citrus feed supplement is a dried and limed byproduct ~~which had been ground to a particle size of about 2 mm or less to provide said citrus particles.~~

29. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises a combination of byproduct components, each of said byproduct components being in its native a state as natively present in dried citrus byproduct produced from juice extraction equipment.

30. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 29, wherein said byproduct components comprise at least one component selected from the group consisting of: (a) pectin, demethylated pectin, and combinations thereof; (b) a food grade citrus-originating acid; (c) hesperidin, other flavonoids, and combinations thereof; (d) one or more limonin glucosides other bioflavonoids and combinations thereof; ~~and~~ (e) sinensetin, tangeretin, nobiletin, other polymethoxylated flavones, and combinations thereof; and (f) any combination of components (a)-(e).

31. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said providing of the breeder poultry feed diet composition is carried out in at least two stages including a first stage during which the poultry is fed for a length of time adequate for the poultry to grow to pullet size and a second stage during which female poultry lay eggs at least some of which are fertilized for hatching into poultry chicks.

32. (Original) The process according to claim 20, wherein the providing of said citrus feed supplement places citrus byproduct into the poultry feed diet without purifying the citrus byproduct present in the citrus feed supplement.

33. (Original) The process according to claim 20 wherein the providing of said citrus feed supplement places citrus byproduct into the poultry feed diet without extracting the citrus byproduct present in the citrus feed supplement.

34. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of not greater than about 1.6 weight percent, based on the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition to provide an adjusted feed conversion rate of ~~less than about 1.381~~ about 1.284 or 1.292 for the poultry breeders.

37. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition to provide ~~the~~ an adjusted feed conversion rate of less than about 1.309 for the poultry breeders.

38. (Currently Amended) A process for enhancing commercial poultry breeder operations, comprising:

supplying a space having an area at which poultry breeders are fed;

providing a breeder poultry feed diet composition which comprises a nutritive balanced feed composition and a citrus feed supplement, said citrus feed supplement ~~being~~ comprising a citrus byproduct generated by expressing citrus juice from citrus fruit and a combination of byproduct components, the citrus byproduct comprising citrus peel or pulp, said citrus feed supplement being at a concentration of not more than about 2 weight percent, based on the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition, and the combination of byproduct components comprising at least one component selected from the group consisting of: (a) pectin, demethylated pectin, and combinations thereof; (b) a food grade citrus-originating acid; (c) hesperidin, other flavonoids, and combinations thereof; (d) one or more limonin glucosides other bioflavonoids and combinations thereof; (e) sinensetin, tangeretin, nobiletin, other polymethoxylated flavones, and combinations thereof; and (f) any combination of components (a)-(e); and

placing said breeder poultry feed diet composition within the area at which poultry breeders are fed, thereby having the poultry feed on the breeder poultry feed diet, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition to permit the poultry breeders to gain weight while feeding exclusively on the poultry feed diet composition.

39. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition to provide ~~the~~ an adjusted feed conversion rate of ~~less than about 1.381~~ about 1.284 or 1.292 for the poultry breeders.

40. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition to provide ~~the~~ an adjusted feed conversion rate of less than about 1.309 for the poultry breeders.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of not greater than about 1.6 weight percent, based on the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition.

43. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said providing of the breeder poultry feed diet composition is carried out in at least two stages including a first stage during which the poultry is fed for a length of time adequate for the poultry to grow to pullet size and a second stage during which female poultry lay eggs at least some of which are fertilized for hatching into poultry chicks.

44. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus byproduct comprises citrus waste selected from the group consisting of citrus peel, citrus pulp, citrus flavedo, citrus albedo, citrus rag, and combinations thereof.

45. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of at least about 0.2 weight percent and up to about 1 weight percent, based upon the total weight of the poultry feed diet composition.

46. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus feed supplement is at a concentration of at least about 4 pounds and up to about 16 pounds per ton of feed diet composition.

47. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises particles of dried citrus byproduct flake.

48. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises particles of pelletized dried citrus byproduct.

49. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein said citrus byproduct of the citrus feed supplement is a dried and limed byproduct ~~which had been ground to a particle size of about 2 mm or less to provide said citrus particles.~~

50. (Currently Amended) The process in accordance with claim 38, ~~wherein said citrus feed supplement comprises a combination of byproduct components, each of said~~ byproduct components being in its native a state as natively present in dried citrus byproduct produced from juice extraction equipment.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the providing of said citrus feed supplement places citrus byproduct into the poultry feed diet without purifying the citrus byproduct present in the citrus feed supplement.

53. (Previously Presented) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the providing of said citrus feed supplement places citrus byproduct into the poultry feed diet without extracting the citrus byproduct present in the citrus feed supplement.

54. (New) The process in accordance with claim 20, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition for the poultry breeders to achieve an average adjusted feed conversion rate that is about 2% lower than the adjusted feed conversion rate for similar poultry breeders feeding on the nutritive balanced feed composition without the citrus feed supplement.

55. (New) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition for the poultry breeders to achieve an average adjusted feed conversion rate that is about 2% lower than an adjusted feed conversion rate for similar poultry breeders feeding on the nutritive balanced feed composition without the citrus feed supplement.

56. (New) The process in accordance with claim 38, wherein the poultry feed diet composition provides sufficient nutrition for the poultry breeders to achieve an average adjusted feed conversion rate that is lower than an adjusted feed conversion rate for similar poultry breeders feeding on the nutritive balanced feed composition without the citrus feed supplement.